

from a cell and cleavage of the secretory signal sequence from the fusion protein, and (ii) a second polypeptide.

30. The fusion protein of claim 29, wherein said second polypeptide is a lipopolysaccharide binding protein.

31. The fusion protein of claim 29, wherein said second polypeptide is a protein selected from the group consisting of chloramphenicol aminotransferase, green fluorescent protein or another aequorin, β -amylase, β -lactamase, luciferase, glucuronidase, alkaline phosphatase, and β -galactosidase.--

R E M A R K S

The above new claims 29-31 are added to the application to claim additional embodiments of the invention. No new matter is added to the application. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification, for example: at page 6, lines 16-18; page 24, lines 26-28; page 26, lines 20-29; and in the working examples.

Favorable action on the merits of the application is respectfully requested. If there are any minor matters precluding allowance of the application which may be resolved by a telephone discussion, the Examiner is respectfully requested

to contact Mr. Richard Gallagher, (Reg. No. 28,781) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP



By *Mark J. Nuell* #36,623
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.
Reg. No. 28,977

Mark J. Nuell
Reg. No. 36,623

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

RG
GMM/DRN/RG/clb
1781-178P